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**California State University, Sacramento (CSUS)**

**Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution (CAPCR)**

[**capcr@csus.edu**](http://capcr@csus.edu)

**Presents**

**The 29th Annual Africa & Diaspora International e-Conference**

**October 15-17, 2020**

**Virtual Conference Program**

**[www.csus.edu/center/african-peace-conflict-resolution/](http://www.csus.edu/center/african-peace-conflict-resolution/)**

**Theme:**

**Peacebuilders/Peacemakers in Africa & Diaspora Communities and Nations: People, Places and Processes**

**Free registration at:**

**<https://csus.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAucOuuqjgvG9ImCxVHVXdbnGselRXS6Kt_>**

**Peacebuilders/Peacemakers in Africa & Diaspora Communities and Nations:**

**People, Places and Processes**

When we drafted the first preliminary program for this conference the world was still functioning within a certain level of normalcy, meaning we could travel, meet, teach, sing and dance, in sum, live our lives as the social animals we are. Not all was quiet in the Western front, though. There was the chilling awareness that the dominant ideology that informs politics and policies in most of the world is a combination of cruelty and callousness, coupled with admiration for dictatorship. It is an ideology founded upon hatred, fear of otherness, and the exaltation of violent domination expressed by the supremacy of a group over others. It is not a new modus operandi -- colonialism used this formula for centuries and so did Nazism and fascism, the ultra-nationalism of the 20th century.

Then Covid 19 entered our lives. It feels like a universal typhoon Haiyan, devastating all corners of the world, touching everybody everywhere. The world became almost surreal and the psychological, physical, emotional, economic, and social effects of this pandemic will linger for a long time -- in ways that are still unclear, but we can feel danger in the air.

The pandemic also illuminated every large or little crack and fissure that divides society in not classes, but castes. It has deepened social divisions, making them more unjust, more pernicious and more contrary to the ethical goals that guided our social compass -- equality, liberty, fraternity, or in another version, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. "We are in this together" was repeated to exhaustion, but in reality, some of us are much more distanced than others that have fewer resources.

Having open the wound of social inequities for all to see, the pandemic amplified the undercurrent of discontent and indignation that became the fertile soil for an uprising against injustice. George Floyd's murder was gruesome, callous, but its power to move millions worldwide came from it being also paradigmatic of all the other killings and beatings that did not go viral, paradigmatic of all the oppression suffered by the downtrodden.

It is in times of great social upheaval that there is a chance for positive, progressive change. Our ancestors knew that crises are dangerous, but also entail opportunity. And the theme of this Conference became even more relevant, by highlighting the scholarship and experiences of those who work, day in and day out, towards amending past errors and correcting deviations from our ethical goals and compass.

In all social eruptions, even violent ones, we have to look back historically for their root causes. In colonialism, slavery, racism, corruption, wars for profit and/or domination, authoritarianism, in all the economic exploitation and social injustices we find the sources of violence, because they are violence itself. Only by facing the past, acknowledging it, recognizing and validating the suffering of the oppressed can we move forward by making real amends. In all their diversity, the sessions of this conference do just that.

The virtual conference is a condensed version of the initial program. However, we believe that we still can have valuable conversations about some of the pressing issues of our times, building a peaceful future for all. A future with strong foundations on human, civil, economic, and social rights. All lives matter when black and brown lives really matter, not only here in the USA but all over the world.

We also have to adapt to a virtual world, where the attention span is shorter and there is less overhead. **Again, the conference registration is free of charge and all in the campus and Sacramento community are welcome to attend.** The sessions will be a lively conversation among presenters and attendees, with moderators to energize the exchange of ideas.

The goals and mission of CAPCR follow. We are a nonprofit organization that works on the basis of donations, legacies, and other philanthropic financial support. We appreciate your donations.

**A more just and peaceful world is possible, necessary and imperative. Join us in this pursuit!**

**Mission**

The Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution (CAPCR) was established in 1996 at California State University, Sacramento, to provide conflict resolution and reconciliation services for agencies, governments, institutions, businesses, civil society and community organizations and other groups through training, education, research, and intervention.

CAPCR develops curricular/materials and provides training on mediation, negotiation, arbitration, and other conflict resolution services for governmental and nongovernmental organizations, business and community groups, public and private agencies, educational institutions and allied professional associations in the United States and Africa.

**Goals**

* Develop and implement programs that educate and promote peace and conciliation among families, organizations, community groups, and governments, both in the US and Africa.
* Conduct research and evaluations on African conflict situations and serve as a clearinghouse/resource center.
* Establish institutional and community network of support in the US and Africa on conflict resolution and assist in creation of indigenous conflict resolution institutes in Africa.
* Assist in mediation/arbitration/resolution of conflicts among Africans, when possible and with consent of disputing parties.

Since CAPCR's founding in 1996, CAPCR has developed independently, and in conjunction with other agencies, numerous major initiatives on conflict resolution, alternative dispute resolution and peace education. Our partners include the U.S. State Department and Department of Education, the U.S. Institute of Peace, USAID, JAMS Foundation, World Bank, California Wellness Foundation, the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in Lagos, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, the Nigerian Human Rights Commission, the University of Ghana-Legon, the Ghana Bar Association , Judiciary and Ministry of Justice, the Ghana Association of Certified Mediators and Arbitrators, Ethiopia Dispute Resolution Association, Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA)-Kenya and Ethiopia, National University of Rwanda-Butare, The Gambia Judiciary, Addis Ababa University, the University of Liberia in Monrovia, the University of Dakar in Senegal, the African Center for Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD), among others.

**Contact:**Dr. Ernest E. Uwazie

Director

Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution

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**Note: All times are Pacific Standard Times (PST)**

**Thursday, October15, 2020**

**Opening remarks: Dr. Maria da Luz Alexandrino, CSUS**

**MORNING SESSION A - 09:00am-10:00am**

Topic: **TRAINING** **THE** **PEACE LEADERS OF THE FUTURE**

*"Developing Peace Leaders Through Peace Camps– Experiences of Young Peace Builders"*

**Dr. Imoh Colins Edozie,** University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio

*"Misconceptions and Challenges of Prosecuting Conflict-Related Sexual Crimes: The Nigerian and South Sudanese Experiences"*

**Dr. Carol Ijeoma Njoku**, Department of International and Comparative Law, University of Nigeria Nsukka

**Moderator: Dr. Lid Clerc**, Independent Scholar, France

**MORNING SESSION B - 10:10am-11:20am**

Topic: **LOST IN TRANSLATION -- COMMUNICATION IN MULTILINGUAL SOCIETIES**

*Challenges in Multilingual Dialogues*

**Daniel Yamshon**, Lawyer, ADR and Mediation Consultant, Sacramento, California

*"Dialogue Bridge Builders Corps (DBBC)"*

**James Offuh**, Peace Advocate, United for Peace Against Conflicts International (UFPACI), Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

**Moderator: Dr. Kai Lin**, Division of Criminal Justice, CSUS

**MORNING SESSION C - 11:30am-12:40pm**

Topic: **CHOOSING TO DO THE RIGHT THING & FOSTERING SOCIAL BONDS**

*"Advance Peace -- Goals, Processes, and Results in Reducing and Preventing Gun Violence"*

**Julius Thibodeaux**, Advance Peace, Sacramento

*"Education is the Most Powerful Weapon You Can Use to Change the World", words of Nelson Mandela*

**Ndeye Katy Dieng**, President, Esprit du Sud, France

**Papa Amadou Lamine**, SARR, General Secretary, Esprit du Sud, Senegal

**Moderator: Dante Barksdale**, Ph. D. Candidate in History, UC Davis

**WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS - 01:00pm-03:00pm**

**WELCOME:**

**Dr. Maria da Luz Alexandrino,** Chair, Conference Planning Committee

**Dr. Ernest Uwazie**, CAPCR Director & Chair of the Division of Criminal Justice, CSUS

**Dr. Steve Perez**, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, CSUS

**OPENING REMARKS: Congresswoman Karen Bass, HR, CA District 37**

**Introduction of Opening Speaker: Dr. Robin Carter**, Interim Dean, College of Health and Human Services, CSUS.

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**: **Dr.** **"Ati" Mosupyoe**, Associate Dean, College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, CSUS

**Keynote Speaker**: **Dr. Laurence(Laurie) Neill Nathan**, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Professor of the Practice of Mediation, Director, Mediation Program, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame.

**Moderator**: **Dr. Jessie Gaston**, Chair of the Board, CAPCR, CSUS.

**Friday, October16, 2020**

**SPECIAL DISCUSSION PANEL - 8:00am-09:00am**

Topic: **Building the New Generation of Peace Leaders in Africa**

 As Africa strives for peace and prosperity in quest for achieving the African Union Agenda 2063- **Aspirations for Good Governance and 4 A** **Peaceful and Secure Africa**, there is need to develop a framework for identifying critical personnel and agencies or institutions for proper conflict resolution skills training, mentorship and application. Going beyond relevant policies and programs, the panel examines key personnel and institutions needed for impactful, sustainable skills application to achieve a conducive environment for peace and development. The ongoing African Union’s initiatives for **Silencing the Guns** and related issues of violent extremism, and ethno-religious conflictswill be illustrated as focal points for articulating or examining the *who, where, and how*—to build a new generation of peace leaders in Africa.

*This panel is intended to support the ongoing development of the* ***Africa Peace Fellows*** *initiative by the Center for African Peace & Conflict Resolution at California State University, Sacramento*

**PANELISTS:**

**Ambassador Dr. Salah S. Hammad**, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Dr. Mary Shuttleworth**, Youth for Human Rights International, Los Angeles

**H. E. Enzo di Taranto**, Resident Coordinator Office, United Nations, Madagascar

**Dr. Tigist Yeshiwas Endgaw**, Institute of Peace & Strategic Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

**Severine Allute**, Africa Diaspora Foundation, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

**Ambassador Ireneo Namboka**, former UN Human Rights Educator and Protection Adviser

**Moderator & Co-Facilitator**: **Dr. Ernest Uwazie**, Director, CAPCR, CSUS & **Mr. Agrippa Ezozo**, President/Founder, African Diaspora Foundation, Palmdale, CA

**MORNING SESSION A - 9:00am-10:00am**

Topic: **FRENCH COLONIALISM IN THE CARIBBEAN -- RESISTANCE TO SYSTEMIC VIOLENCE**

*"The Republic of Rural Democracy: Alexandre Petion and the Creation of the Republic of Haiti, 1806-1820"*

**Dante Barksdale**, Ph. D. Candidate in History, UC Davis

*"Glissant's Poetics of Reconciliation with History"*

**Sanyu Mulira**, Ph. D. Candidate in History, New York University

**Moderator:** **Dr. Ryan Getty**, Division of Criminal Justice, CSUS

**MORNING SESSION B - 10:00am-11:00am**

Topic: **MISSIONS AND EDUCATION -- KNOWLEDGE & RELIGION IN AFRICA**

*"The Power of Knowledge: Religious and Cultural Teacher's Role in Peace and Development of African Communities"*

**Dr. Lawrence N. Okwosa**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Religion and Cultural Studies, Univeristy of Nigeria, Nsukka

**Dr. Gilbert Alaribe**, Chief Lecturer, Department of Religion and Cultural Studies, Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri

"*A Mission to Educate: Governance, Christianity, and Education in Colonial Kenya"*

**Genevieve Weinstein**, UC Davis International Relations and African American and African Studies Undergraduate Student

**Moderator:** **Edidiong Mendie**, LL.M., Doctoral Candidate, Texas Southern University

**MORNING SESSION C - 11:00Am-12:15pm**

Topic: **LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: THE BLACK AMERICAN EXPERIENCE OF EXCLUSION, DISCRIMINATION & DISENFRANCHISEMENT BY LAW AND DEED**

**PANEL: Diana Tate Vermeire,** J.D., Vice President, Inclusive Excellence and University Diversity Officer, CSUS

**Kaifa Yates**, MLK Center Outreach Coordinator, CSUS,

**Jonathan Brimer**, Graduate Student, Department of History, CSUS

**Dr. Maria da Luz Alexandrino**, Board Member, CAPCR, CSUS

A conversation on the far-reaching legacies of slavery -- lynching as social control, the comeback of eugenics, the war on drugs, felony disenfranchisement as one of the consequences of mass incarceration, other-than-honorable discharges for service members of the military, experiences of racism in college campuses, and other examples of systemic racism.

**AFTERNOON SESSION - 01:00pm-02:30pm**

Topic: **REPARATIONS IN CALIFORNIA: LESSONS AND INSIGHTS FROM AFRICA TO THE USA -TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION (TRC) MODEL FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO GREENSBORO, NC**

**PANEL: Dr. Boatamo "Ati" Mosupyoe**, Associate Dean, College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies

**Dr. Ernest Uwazie,** Director, CAPCR & Chair, Division of Criminal Justice, CSUS

**Dr. Nicole Fox**, Board Member, CAPCR, CSUS

**Dr.** **Veronica Ehrenreich-Risner**, Department of Humanities and Religious Studies, CSUS

**Moderator: Dr. Sylvester "Jim" Bowie**, Board Member, CAPCR, Division of Social Work, CSUS

**Closing remarks: Dr. Maria da Luz Alexandrino**, Board Member, CAPCR, CSUS

**SATURDAY, October17, 2020 6:00pm-07:30pm**

**AFRICA PEACE AWARDS EVENT**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER** -- **DANNY GLOVER**

Danny Glover's accomplishments are too many to fit here, so just a few highlights. For decades he has been a commanding force in Hollywood: he was Roger Murtaugh in the *Lethal Weapon* film series; he had leading roles in films such as *The Color Purple* (1985), *To Sleep with Anger* (1990), *Angels in the Outfield* (1994) and *Operation Dumbo Drop* (1995). He has supporting roles in films, such as *Saw* (2004), *Shooter* (2007), *2012* (2009), *Death at a Funeral* ((2010), *Beyond the Lights* (2014), *Dirty Grandpa* (2016), and *Sorry to Bother You* (2018). On television he received nominations for Emmys for his performances in the title role of the HBO movie, *Mandela*, in the acclaimed mini-series *Lonesome Dove*, and in the telefilm *Freedom Song*.

Danny Glover supports all the struggles for human rights in the US and around the world, having been actively involved in the fight since his time as a student at California State University, San Francisco (CSUSF). Here, he participated in the 1968 student-led strike that led to the creation of the world's first College of Ethnic Studies. He graduated from CSUSF with a BA in Political Science, but since then he has received several honorary degrees.

As humanitarian and philanthropist, his work is centered on issues of poverty, disease, and economic development in Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. He was a UN Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Development Program (1998-2004) and he is currently a UNICEF Ambassador. He is an active member of the TransAfrica Forum, and in 2009 he was given the Chieftaincy title in Imo State, Nigeria, with the title Enyioma of Nkwerre. This title means "A Good Friend" in Igbo. **And that is what Danny Glover is -- a good friend to all who fight oppression and defend human rights anywhere, everywhere.**

**Welcoming remarks:**

**Dr. Robin Carter,** Interim Dean, College of Health and Human Services, CSUS

**Dr. Steve Perez,** Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs, CSUS

**Awards Presentations: Dr. Ernest Uwazie, CAPCR Director**

**Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Sylvester Bowie,** CAPCR Board & Professor of Social Work

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Mr. Allen Warren,** Sacramento City Council member

**PEACE AWARDS**

**Peace and Justice -- Danny Glover**

**Peacebuilder -- Reverend Leonard Kayondo of Rwanda**

**Peacemaker -- Dr. Nicole Clavo, Founding President of Healing 5 Foundation, Inc.**

**Peace Service -- Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Sacramento Valley**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

To the **Student Recipients of the 2020 CAPCR Anvar Velji Family Scholarship Awards**:

**Edleen Roberts**- Child Development/Political Science

**Lamont Chatman**-Ethnic Studies

**Samrawit T. Gebrezghi**-Criminal Justice

**Acknowledgements**

We are deeply grateful for the support we received from the following units/offices at California State University, Sacramento:

Division of Criminal Justice

Office of the Dean, College of Health and Human Services

Drs. Anvar and Pari Velji

**2020 Virtual Conference Planning Committee**

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Dr. Data Barata

Dr. Sylvester Bowie  
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Dr. Marlyn Jones

Dr. Elizabeth Mukiibi  
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Dr. Davies Sasere  
Ms. Toni Tinker, Program Assistant

Ms. Edleen Roberts, Student Assistant

**Past Africa/Diaspora Conference Themes and Keynote Speakers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1992 | Africa and New World Order, Ambassador Ibrahim Gambari |
| 1993 | Africa in the Diaspora: Bridging the Cultures of the African Peoples, Randall Robinson |
| 1994 | The African Heritage: Myths, Realities and Prospects, Dr. Molefi Asante |
| 1995 | Conflict Resolution in Africa, Former Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda |
| 1996 | The African Woman: An Agenda for the 21st century, Ms. Vivian Lowery Derryck |
| 1997 | African/African American Organizations in US: An Agenda for Political-Economic Empowerment in 21st Century, Mr. Mel Foote |
| 1998 | The African/African American Family: An Agenda for 21st century, Dr. Nkiru Nzegwu |
| 1999 | Conflict Resolution and Peace Education in Africa: Lessons and Opportunities, Dr. Chris Bakwesegha |
| 2000 | Africans in the Americas: Past, Present and Future, Dr. Ali Mazrui |
| 2001 | Human Rights, Justice, Peace and Development in Africa, Dr. Edmond Keller |
| 2002 | African Studies in California Schools, Colleges and Universities: Teaching/Thinking across Disciplines/Programs, Dr. Molefi Asante |
| 2003 | Ethnicity, Religion, and Conflict Diamonds in Africa, Dr. Charles Wedderburn |
| 2004 | African and African American Relations in US, Americas and Africa, Dr. Karenga Maulana |
| 2005 | Contemporary/Critical Issues in African Development, Mr. John Prendergast |
| 2006 | Indigenous African Institutions/Systems in Era of Globalization, Dr. Chudi Uwazurike |
| 2007 | Building a Culture of Peace in Africa: Best Practices/Models, Mr. Nii Akuetteh |
| 2008 | Mukoma wa Ngugi: The African Youth in America and Africa: Bridging the Gaps |
| 2009 | Race, Religion and Ethnic Relations in Africa/Diaspora: Creating Peace and Justice Dialogues, Dr. Judith Byfield and Dr. Kelechi Kalu |
| 2010 | Africa Health, Peace, Security and Development, Dr. Chinua Akukwe and Dr. Michele D. Pierre-Louis |
| 2011 | Contemporary Issues in African Development, Dr. George Ayittey |
| 2012 | Africa at the Crossroads: Revolution, Democracy, Youth Empowerment, Social Media and Nonviolence, Ambassador Robin Sanders |
| 2013 | African/Diaspora Health and Human Security, Dr. Anvar Velji |
| 2014 | Rethinking and Managing Ethnic and Religious Relations in Contemporary Africa/Diaspora: Past Experiences, Present Realities and New Directions, Prof. Vincent Nmehielle |
| 2015 | The African Family: Traditions, Transitions, and Transformations, Dr. Beyene Yewoubdar |
| 2016 | Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies in Africa, 25 Years Later: Lessons, Best Practices, and Future, Dr. Pauline Baker |
| 2017 | Peace, Power, and Vulnerability in Africa/Diaspora: Towards Social Justice in National and International Development, Emira Woods |
| 2018 | The African Peace and Security Architecture: Lessons, Challenges, and Opportunities: Joao Porto Gomes |

2019 Peace Commerce: The Role of Peace in Economic and Business Development: Dr. Bennet Omalu

**30th Annual Africa & Diaspora International Conference: 2022**

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